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JW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Inventor: **Darrell Meyer**

Serial No: **PCT/US00/02837**

Filed: **February 3, 2000**

For: **Weight Bearing Systems and  
Methods Relating to Same**

Examiner: **not yet determined**

Art Unit: **not yet determined**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Cancel claims 1-28.

29. (Added) A weight bearing element comprising:  
a substantially flat web having a plurality of spaced stabilizing members; and  
at least one chord defining a perimeter having a polygonal cross-sectional shape with at  
least 5 mutually non-coplanar sides, at least two of which are substantially  
parallel to the web, the chord being connected to the web at least one vertex of an  
angle of the chord.

30. (Added) The weight bearing element of claim 29 wherein the stabilizing members are  
formed from punched out openings.

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